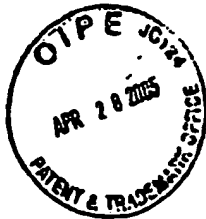


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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TC/ART UNIT 1731

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ERIC MIES ET AL.

Application No.: 10/717,856

Filed: November 19, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
FORMING LOW OPTICAL LOSS
SPICES

Examiner: John Hoffmann

TC/Art Unit: 1731

April 25, 2005

Entered with RCE
8/12/05
mw 8/17/05

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 25, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

a Listing of the Claims begins on page 2; and

Remarks begin on page 6.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on:

April 25, 2005

(date of transmission)

James F. Dobrow

(printed name)

(signature)